

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please add the following before the Background section of the application:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/970,353.

Please amend paragraph [0025] as follows:

Figure 8 provides a sketch of another embodiment of the pressure housing **45**. In this embodiment, the pressure housing **45** is attached to the cables **1a**, **1b** by means of fittings **60a**, **60b**. The first fitting **60a** and the pressure housing **45** are slid over the first cable **1a**. The second fitting **60b** is slid over the second cable **1b**. After splicing, the fittings **60a**, **60b** and the pressure housing **45** are positioned such that the weld coupling **35** is contained within the pressure housing **45**. The fittings **60a**, **60b** are then tightened, thereby sealing the welded connections inside the pressure housing **45**. The fittings **60a**, **60b** in this embodiment seal to the cables **1a**, **1b** through a dual ferrule systems **65a**, **65b**. The fittings **60a**, **60b** seal onto the pressure housing **45** by means of an elastomeric seals **70a**, **70b**. These sealing mechanisms **65a**, **65b**, **70a**, **70b** are not the only means by which the seals can be made. All mechanisms by which one could sealingly join the pressure housing **45** and the cables **1a**, **1b** are intended to fall within the purview of the present invention.

Please amend paragraph [0026] as follows:

Figure 9 provides a sketch of another embodiment of the splice assembly. In this embodiment, the fittings **60a**, **60b** are connected to pressure housing **45** by means of a sealing pipe threads **62b**, **62c**. A removable port **75** is used to pressure test the welded splice assembly.